

Utah CCGP - Closing the Gap Results Report (Large Group) 2008-2009

School: Olympus Jr. High school

Project Focus: School Improvement Goal

Target Group: Whole school

ABSTRACT

The school community was concerned about the lack of respect students were displaying toward each other. We decided that we wanted to work on this from a positive angle. We hoped that teaching students several sets of manners would result in more knowledge and better skill.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction (the Why)

- One of the Desired Result for Student Learning for our school is to be "respectful citizens"
- Improved social skills

Participants (the Who)

The entire school was to participate.

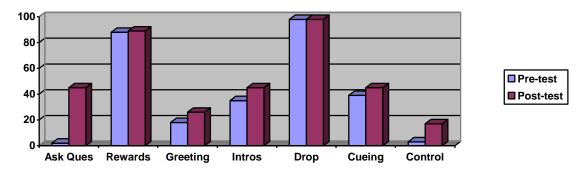
Teachers reported back on 610 students

Method (the What, When and Where and How)

- Guidance Activity(ies) during Channel on over the course of six weeks.
- We distributed excerpts from the book "The Essential 55," by Ron Clark
- Project Started in January and went for approximately 6 weeks.
- Evaluation Methods The results were measured by pre/post tests
- Counselor(s) prepared materials and conducted the training and teachers taught the manners in classes.
- Curriculum was seven manners selected from "The Essential 55" by Ron Clark

RESULTS

Changes in knowledge were shown by increase in accurate answer overall. Changes in behavior were observed anecdotally by counselors in hallways and conversation.



DISCUSSION

The implications are that students both need training in basic manners and social skills and can learn them and apply them quickly.

As noted above, the students increased their knowledge in every case but one. However, counselors noticed that students held doors for other students and adults, greeted adults by name, and returned asked questions in conversation.